CITY OF NORMAN, OK
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING
Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room
201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Monday, October 26, 2026 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

The Human Rights Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Executive Conference Room at the Municipal Building, on Monday, October 26, 2026 at 5:30 PM and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Aisha Ali, Chair (Ward 3) [arrived at 5:38 pm]
Jessica Schwager, Vice-Chair (Ward 4)
Romina Navarro Vega (Ward 6)
Brandon Clark (Ward 5)
Phillip Moss (Ward 2)
Rachel Wyatt-Swanson (Ward 8)
Polly Henderson (Ward 1)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT
(none)

STAFF PRESENT
Grace Holloman, Accessibility and Culture Coordinator
Anthony Purinton, Assistant City Attorney
Sarah Encinias, Legal Admin Tech

OTHERS PRESENT
Michael Givel (Ward 2)

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present. Vice-Chair Schwager called the meeting to order.

MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2026, REGULAR MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Wyatt-Swanson to approve the Minutes for the September 28, 2026, regular meeting and motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Moss. A vote was taken with the following results: all approved and none opposed. The Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING HRC MEETING CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 2026 AND ALL OF YEAR 2027

Ms. Holloman asked commissioners if they'd prefer to move the November meeting up a week so as to not be so close to the Thanksgiving holiday. Motion was made by Commissioner Navarro-Vega to move the meeting and motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson. The vote was unanimous to move the next meeting from November 23rd to November 16th. The meeting remains in the Executive Conference Room at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Holloman said the discussion regarding the meeting calendar for 2027 would be moved to the November meeting for determination at that time.

3. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE 2027 MAYOR'S INTERFAITH BREAKFAST (approx. 5 min.)

Ms. Holloman said the cost of reserving the larger venue, the NPS Center for Arts and Learning (CAL), will cost more than the NPS Nancy O'Brien Center, where last year's breakfast was held. Ms. Holloman said she believes the Nancy O'Brien Center can be used again because not all tables were filled even after accounting for walk-in attendees (non-RSVP). Chair Ali wants to grow the event in the future.

Commissioner Navarro-Vega restated the theme and Chair Ali said her recommendation for emcee accepted the request. Also, a proposed keynote speaker was sent a request but a response is pending. Ms. Holloman is ironing out final details with the caterer.

4. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING 2027 ACTION PLAN (approx. 5 min.)

Chair Ali will compile ideas received from commissioners and send them to Ms. Holloman.

5. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING HENDERSON RECOGNITION (approx. 5 min)

Chair Ali will compile ideas received from commissioners and send them to Ms. Holloman.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE 2026 HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Commissioner Wyatt-Swanson respectfully requested that the nomination received for her be withdrawn so that she is able to participate in choosing a winner from the remaining nominations. Group discussion was then held regarding the remaining six (6) nominations. The following award winners were chosen by unanimous vote: The Beacon Project as the organization award recipient; Michael Hilliary as the individual award recipient. The awards are scheduled to be presented at the City Council meeting on December 8, 2026.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Ali is speaking with the Xenia Institute about presenting at the Interfaith Breakfast. Vice-Chair Schwager said The Beacon Project is accepting the proclamation for World Kindness Day. Ms. Holloman asked if anyone was interested in speaking on a panel regarding environmental advocacy in March 2027, to let her know. Also, Chair Ali said they may be able to have intern volunteers help with the breakfast.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

(Public Comments) None.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.